

Recycling Public Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Location: Department of Finance, 820 Silver Lake Blvd., Dover, DE

Members Present: BJ Vinton, Chairman (CSWSC)
Mike Parkowski proxy for Pat Canzano (DSWA)
Dick Cecil (Del. Association of Counties)
Marjorie Crofts (DNREC)
Sheba Vine proxy for George Danneman (Soda Beverage Industry)
Kelly Davis (Educator, DelTech-Owens Campus)
Michael Fusca (Alcohol Beverage Industry)
Tom Houska (Waste Management, Inc.)
Basil Kollias (DE Chamber of Commerce)
Marianne Cinaglia proxy for Wally Kremer (DeEASI)
Julie Miro Wenger (Delaware Food Industry Council)
Kyle Sonnenberg (DE League of Local Governments)
Pat Todd (League of Women Voters)

Members Absent: Carrie Leishman (Restaurant Industry)
Paul Bickhart (Recycling Express of Delaware)
Dick Fleming (Delaware Nature Society)

Non-Members Present:	Jim Short (DNREC)	Bob Ziegler (Allied Waste-RSG)
	Bill Miller (DNREC)	Nancy Marker (DNREC)
	Bob Barrish (Citizen)	Jeff Hague (Citizen)
	Valerie Payton (DAFB)	Deborah Smedley (DE Sanitation)
	Joe Maier (Econo Haul)	Linda Powell (Palmatary's Sanitation)
	Bruce Georgov (IDS-WI)	Margaret Palmatary (Palmatary's San)
	Kim Gomes (representing IDS)	Stan Mills (Rehoboth Beach)

BJ Vinton called the meeting to order at approximately 1:40 P.M. He welcomed everyone and asked for each person to introduce themselves.

Public Comments – None

Approval of Minutes from Meeting of April 27, 2011

Marianne C. corrected the spelling of her last name. Jim S. reworded the Recycling Industry Reporting Requirements paragraph. BJ reworded two lines of Universal Recycling Grant and Loan Program Update section. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved with the discussed changes.

Recycling Industry Reporting Requirements

Jim S. announced that the industry reporting survey has been sent out. Julie M.W. will be helping identify other entities that should be sent the survey, and those will be sent as well. DSM Environmental, the consultant for this recycling measurement and survey, lost the lead person on this project. Hopefully that will not lead to any delays in the project scope.

Universal Recycling Grant and Loan Program Update

Jim S. said many of the contracts are signed, but the Department is still waiting on others. Bill M. added that about 10 contracts have been returned, signed to the Department; 4 others have been signed by the Department Secretary and have gone to our accounting section; about 8 others have completed purchase orders and are ready to go back to the grantee, 1 is pending approval from accounting, and 3 grantees are expected to submit for reimbursement today. Bob B. asked how the program lines up with anticipated fees. Marj said that there are enough funds to cover this set of grants. BJ added that the scoring process was conservative with that in mind. Nancy M. responded to another question, saying that about \$800,000 has been collected, but that number is only through March sales. We don't have an updated number from the Division of Revenue. Mike F. explained that he has sent numerous emails and phone calls to Pat Carter regarding the Division of Revenue's collection of the fee, but has not heard back. A meeting is expected to discuss the licensee list that was previously emailed to stakeholders. Valerie P. asked if those entities selling beverages on base would be subject to the fee. BJ said that he knew of nothing in the law that would exclude them from paying the fee.

Outreach and Education

Bill M. shared that DNREC has been in contact with a vendor regarding a logo and branding for outreach campaigns. DNREC will be working with the Outreach Subcommittee to review potential products, hopefully with a final product by this time next month. Bill M. also urged everyone to reference the newly revised www.recycling.delaware.gov website which has lots of information including a list of frequently asked questions.

Recycling Market Update

Mike P. said the recycling markets have increased since last month. Single-stream recyclables pricing is around \$45 per ton.

Old /New Business

Kyle S. asked if any actions have occurred since a legislative committee discussed an opt-out option for universal recycling. Marj C. said no, but the legislature has been out of session. She will email the RPAC if she learns a committee meeting on this topic is scheduled. Senator McBride seems supportive to not change the law. Julie M.W. said Senator Peterson was drafting a bill to alter universal recycling. Deborah S. said it is important to know that universal recycling is working. She had 48 less tons of trash in April, and that was for only 3 weeks of April. She was amazed at the amount of recyclables she collected and heard from many of her customers how recycling was easy. Tom H. agreed that recycling is more popular than anticipated, sharing that his company recently started recycling in Middletown and actually had to call in four extra trucks to collect all the recyclables. Bob B. said he called around and was able to save 25%. Marj C. made a motion for the RPAC to send a letter to the General Assembly and Governor that provides successful diversion numbers and anecdotes from waste haulers related to universal recycling implementation. Dick C. seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

BJ shared that Senate Bill 40 was approved by the Senate and removes tax credits approved for recycling. It also increases the value of the tax credits that it includes. Based on the vote last meeting to support the retention of tax credits for recycling, BJ will craft a letter for the next committee hearing on this bill.

Mike P. announced that the DSWA is releasing a request for proposals for the utilization of the Delaware Recycling Center in New Castle. The hope is to turn the footprint of the property into an "green" industrial park. Proposals are not due until early July.

BJ asked the RPAC to bring their calendars to the next meeting and to be prepared to discuss scheduling the next year's worth of RPAC meetings.

Jim S. announced that he is gathering interest for a commercial recycling subcommittee and will schedule a meeting in the near future.

Future Meeting

The next meeting will be held on June 22, 2011 at the Brandywine Hundred Library, 1300 Foulk Road, in Wilmington.

The meeting was adjourned around 3:20 P.M.